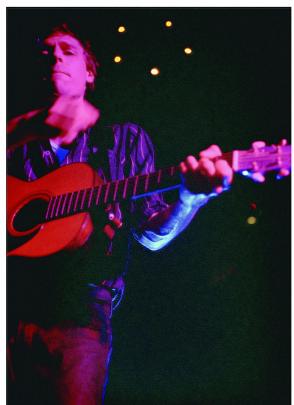
THE GATEWAY

volume XCIV number 44 + the official student newspaper at the university of alberta + www.gateway.ualberta.ca + tuesday, 5 april, 2005



LIDEN IENNIR

STRUMMIN' FOR THE TOWN HELOVES. Joel Plaskett drove the musical bus all over genre-town, Friday, 1 April at New City Suburbs. Ranging from rock n' roll to country stylings, he pumped the audience full of "true patriot love" and chatted of his Nova Scotia home and Canadian travels. Sadly, the rocker's time ended far too early, closing out at 11pm

Alberta opposition parties concerned over education bills

MEGHAN POTKINS

According to the Alberta Liberal and New Democratic leaders, the fine print has been left out of recent provincial legislation, allowing ministers to tinker too much with bills after they become law

At the 15 March sitting of the legislature, Liberal MLA Laurie Blakeman attacked the Conservatives on this issue, while expressing her dissatisfaction with Bill 1, also known as the Access to the Future Act.

"I continue to be concerned by bills I see coming forward from the government which are essentially shell bills," she said.

"And, as you know, the devil's in the details."

Blakeman explained that shell bills don't provide enough substantive content about the implementation of initiatives.

The implications of these murky bills on governance, according to Blakeman, are clear.

"It allows for decision making that affects a lot of people's lives to go on behind closed doors and out of the public eye," said Blakeman. "In other words, to a large extent,

"In other words, to a large extent, it is unaccountable and it is also not transparent."

The specifics about the implementation of certain bills are coming through regulations and orders in council, neither of which are up for debate in the legislature, she noted.

debate in the legislature, she noted.

But Jerry Bellikka, a spokesperson for the Premier's Office, argued that legislation is solely a matter of generalities.

"Legislation is an enabling framework. What it does is it sets up the general parameters of what the law should be and why it's there," aid Bellikka.

"The intent of regulations is to deal with the day-to-day details of the law itself and how it is applied."

Blakeman suggests that is not how government is currently using regulations.

"We've now got almost all of our decision making coming through those regulations," said Blakeman.

"All [Bill 1] says is there will be under \$35 million in the hands of the minister, by the way, who will be then able to use this money to leverage changes that he in his wisdom sees fit."

DR RAJ PANNU, NDP MLA, EDMONTON-STRATHCONA

"Even the larger stuff that really should be subject to the scrutiny of all people, through the Legislative Assembly, winds up in regulations."

Blakeman isn't the only one raising an eyebrow at recent Conservative legislation.

NDP MLA Raj Pannu expressed concern that the wording of Bill 1 is allowing for too much of the decision making to be left up to government ministers.

"All [Bill 1] says is there will be under \$35 million in the hands of the minister, by the way, who will be then able to use this money to leverage changes that he in his wisdom sees fit," said Pannu.

PLEASE SEE SHELLBILLS + PAGE 2

U of A vice-president (external) appointed to Senate of Canada

COSANNA PRESTON

After years of championing the French language in Western Canada, acting U of A Vice-President (External) Dr Claudette Tardif has been asked to serve her country as a Canadian senator.

The announcement, made 24 March, followed a personal request by the Prime Minister to Tardif at the beginning of March. Tardif, in a meeting at the time of the call, was not sur-

16-18

prised to see "Prime Minister's Office" on the call display as the PM was due for a visit to the University of Alberta's nanotechnology centre. But her calm disposition quickly changed when she heard the voice on the other line.

"He said, 'Im Paul Martin the minister of Canada calling, and I thought 'My goodness, this can't be,' and he said, 'Im calling to serve your country, and I would like to name you to the Senate of Canada," she recalls with a smile.

"I was taken aback. It's a very strange feeling when you're asked to serve your country in that way. I certainly felt a wave of patriotism."

> DR CLAUDETTE TARDIF, U OF A ACTING VP (EXTERNAL), CANADIAN SENATE APPOINTEE

"My heart stopped beating, I'm sure for several seconds. I was just taken aback. It's a very strange feeling when you're asked to serve your country in that way. I certainly felt a wave of patriotism."

Only recently appointed as acting U of A vice-president (external), Tardif admits her newest appointment to the Canadian Senate is a little overwhelming.

"All my life has been at the University. I hate to say the number of years, but probably 40 years if I'm counting from my early student days onwards," she laughs.

Tardif has acquired quite a list of credentials since graduating with a U of A Bachelor of Arts degree and has climbed the ladder through all student levels and professorial ranks, associate dean, and several other dean positions to reach her current position in the administration.

However, it is her work with French-language education that has singled her out.

PLEASE SEE SENATE + PAGE 3

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Way on back in '99 ...

Colwyn Llewellyn-Thomas was a Gateway photog. Now, he's a rock star. There's a story about his band in A&E.



The price of sex

The human cost of the sex trade often goes unreported and unnoticed. Read about it in today's feature.

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NEWS tuesday, 5 april, 2005

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Shell bills stifle demands on government: Pannu

SHELL BILLS & CONTINUED EROW PAGE

Blakeman agreed that the ministers currently have too much control over the nature of the bills. Some elements need to come back to the legislature for the scrutiny of the assembly, she argued.

Pannu worried that shell bills serve to stifle demands on the government without yielding results on hot-button

"[Bill 1] is more of an exercise in public relations than a way to sub-

stantively deal with the real problems and challenges that our postsecondary system faces," he said.

But Bellikka maintained that legislation must be tinkered with after its passing in the Legislature in order for it to accommodate unforeseen situations immediately.

"There are some instances-for example, when a law is in place and it has a number of regulations that pertain to it, and a new situation comes up that has to be dealt with right away-if it can be dealt with in regulations and it is in the public good, then it can be dealt with fairly quickly," said Bellikka.

"But if it happens to be that the legislature isn't in sitting at that point, and it is written in stone in legislation that it has to be this way rather than that way, then it's very difficult to adjust to a situation without having to wait for the next session of the legislature. And in some cases that might not be the appropriate way to go," added Bellikka.

Pannu argued, however, that the government isn't simply using regulaons as a means for enabling a certain flexibility of action, as Bellikka sug-

gested.
"The government in fact uses these out delivering on the substance that people expect is somewhere enclosed or hidden in those words," said

"Rhetoric is there, substance is not '

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Caitlin Crawshaw (caitlin@gateway.ualberta.ca)

PANTS, LIKE MONEY, ARE EASY TO LOSE

On Friday, 1 April at 4:23am, Campus 5-0 received a report of a half-naked man sleeping on the couches in the Students' Union Building. 5-0 identified him as a non-affiliated male when they discovered him passed out without any pants or underwear. The male was very intoxicated and argumentative and had four additional beers in a brown paper bag near the couch. He was found to have a criminal record.

HIS FACE IS GONNA HURT SO BAD

About an hour earlier that same Friday Campus Security received a report of an intoxicated male yelling and run ning himself into the fence behind Newton Place, 5-0 constables arrived and observed the male behaving in a bizarre manner. EPS was contacted and the male was arrested.

IN THE NICK OF TIME

Twenty minutes before the fence incident, a 5-o student auxiliary officer working in Lister Centre overheard an intoxicated male stating that he was going to drive home, despite his drunken ness. The officer radioed 5-o dispatch and the male was located in the Lister parking lot. The student was given a 24-hour su pension and his pickup truck was towed.

OOPS, THEY DID IT AGAIN

Last Thursday, 31 March, around 9pm. 5-o constables responded to a silent alarm from a smart classroom in the Biological Sciences Building, Upon arrival, the constables noticed that an

LCD projector had been pulled down from the ceiling and was hanging by its wires. It would appear that the culprits had fled the area prior to the arrival of Campus Security. It's not uncommon for thieves to use lookouts during these types of offenses.

NO OFFICER, THIS ISN'T A CROWBAR. IT'S A CRICKET RAT

E-O observed a suspicious male near the south end of HUB Mall last Tuesday, 29 March, at 1:34am. The non-affiliated male provided several false names before he was arrested for possession of break-and-enter tools. He was also on probation for possession of stolen property, including two CD players. He was turned over to EPS

TEA PARTIES GONE AWRY

At 7:25pm on Monday, 28 March, Campus Security dispatch received a complaint regarding a male selling chinaware near

the HUB LRT station, 5-0 observed the male and notified LRT Security. The nonaffiliated male attempted to leave the area, but was arrested by 5-o. A few minutes later, LRT Security requested assistance with an intoxicated male passed out in the Education LRT entrance. This non-affiliated male was found to have perpetrated numerous crimes in the ast, including sexual offenses. He was formally trespassed from University property and was escorted to a drug and alcohol treatment centre.

THE TRUTH USUALLY HELPS

A resident in Lister Hall complained to 5-othat a male was velling and banging on the door of a suite in Schaffer at 3:44am on 28 March. 5-o constables arrived and found a male matching the description provided by the complainant. Not unpredictably, the male provided a false name and was arrested by 5-o for obstruction before being turned over to the EPS.

STREETERS

This weekend, Pope John Paul II passed away after fighting the ailments of old age for many years.

What is the significance of the Pope's death to you?



Education



Engineering II



Colin Stepho



Joelle Koch Science II

eally a sad thing. It feels like the falling of a big star. I feel really sad about it

seen John Paul II since they were born they've only seen one Pope. For him to die, it kind of reminds you that you're moving on, that we're entering another era ... So, I think we should look at it as a breaking point ... as we see new leader come in and try to do things differently, or keep things the same.

Really, lit has no significance at all, I already knew it was going to happen; it was kind of predictable. I don't think an 84-year-old man dying should be a shock to anyone.

It's sad. He was a good man, but I don't think it is going to impact me in my daily

Compiled and photographed by Kaila Simoneau and Michael Larocque

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Tardif touts her work in French education as key to success

SENATE + CONTINUED FROM PACE

Tardif's most recent French endeavour was her work as the dean of Faculté Saint Jean (FSJ) from 1995–2003, but her work dates back to the 1980s when she sat on the Committee of Francophone Parents that established the first French-language schools in Alberta.

"It was, I suppose, important pioneer work. I guess I have been leading the charge in many fronts," she

In fact, as dean at FSJ, Tardif was involved in starting bilingual commerce and nursing programs, as well as implementing French firstyear engineering. But her French history dates back

But her French history dates back far before her education work, to her maternal grandparents who settled in Alberta from Québec in 1902.

She grew up in a French-speaking home, and she and her French-speaking husband spoke both languages while raising their three children. But having a family that is strongly rooted in Alberta does make it difficult to leave.

"I'm going to be away a lot and living alone. I have two kids in Calgary and a daughter here in Edmonton, so being away is going to have a big impact on our family. ... But my husband's been very supportive. He's my champion."

But while splitting her time between Ottawa and Edmonton might be a drastic change for the Alberta native, her passion for connecting Canadians through minority rights won't be left behind. Tardif



HEADING TO OTTAWA Tardif will be sworn in as senator later this month.

views her work at FSJ as a microcosm of the work she will be doing in Ottawa

At FSJ she says her job was to connect Canadians flocking from all over the country to the largest French faculty in Western Canada.

Tardif fully intends to tackle important minority issues sitting as a Liberal senator, though she stresses that her choice of political affiliation was not immediate and that the prime minster exerted no pressure

on her to choose his party.

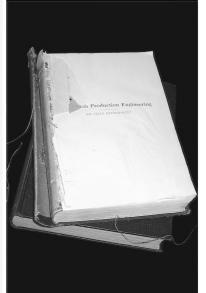
And while Tardif acknowledges that the Senate has received its share of criticism, especially from Alberta, she is hesitant to jump to any conclusions about an elected

Senate or any other suggestions of reform.

Instead, she believes that a true senator diligently investigates the issues and commits to the job full-time. Tardif suggests that she will be spending five days in Ottawa and two days in Edmonton in any given week.

"If one wants to do good work it has to be a full-time job. I don't take it lightly," says Tardif.

"It is a commitment and I will take the time and spend the energy necessary to consult with Canadians and Albertans because I think it is really important to protect the interests of Canadians and minority interests."



No Cover.



New nursing dean to revamp faculty

KAILA SIMONEAU

Incoming Dean of Nursing Dr Beth Horsburgh never wanted to be a nurse as a child, despite much encouragement from her father.

"At one point I remember stamping my foot and saying, 'If nursing was the last profession on earth, I still wouldn't become a nurse!" says Horsburgh.

"And then, I don't know, I guess I got that rebelliousness out of my system and started thinking about it. I went into nursing at the University of Windsor and never looked back. I found it very satisfying and I felt that on a daily basis you actually made a difference in people's lives."

After graduating with her nursing degree from the University of Windsor, Horsburgh moved to Detroit to begin her career working in a hospital for eight years.

"I really enjoy the hospital environment in particular. But I wouldn't describe myself as a 'nurse's nurse.' I come to nursing as a bit of a skeptic; there are things about nursing that irritate me and that I, hopefully, have been instrumental in changing," explains Horsburgh.

It is that skepticism which brought her back to Windsor, where she took a position as a professor. Horsburgh, who has enjoyed teaching since her days as a student, also took the opportunity to go back to school herself, completing both a Masters in education and a PhD in nursing.

For ten years, Horsburgh has

worked on the academic side of nursing, taking on a variety of administrative roles at both the University of Windsor and the University of Saskatchewan. Most recently, Horsburgh was the dean of nursing in Saskatchewan, an experience which she calls the best five years of her working life.

"I have been responsible for leading the college during a period of major growth," she says.

major growth," she says.
"We have streamlined and revised
all of our programs."

During her time as dean in Saskatchewan, Horsburgh created a PhD nursing program and was an advocate for inter-professional educa-

tion programs in health sciences.

While she is a bit sad to leave,
Horsburgh is excited about her new
position at the U of A.

"[The U of A] has some wonderful resources, wonderful researchers, excellent staff, and some outstanding students. One of the biggest things I need to learn is how to work in a more resource-rich environment than what I have been used to," she says.

Horsburgh, who begins her appointment at the U of A this September, plans on taking some time to familiarize herself with the faculty and the campus before really getting into her responsibilities. However, she already has some plans for the faculty.

"I definitely believe that they have a national obligation to use their resources wisely because they really have soaked up so many of the academic resources compared to any other [faculty] in Canada—that they really do have the responsibility to meet the needs that are out there," Horsburgh explains.

"That being said, I don't think that the faculty of musing at the U of can be everything to everybody. I do think that they need to ... better refine their vision of where they want to be pre-eminent, where they already are pre-eminent, and areas of promise that should be developed."

Horsburgh is also looking forward to the opportunity to work with students on her own research on self-care and caregiving during chronic illness.

Despite her busy professional life, Horsburgh says that she has no problem separating her hectic work life from her personal life.

"I'm pretty down to earth. If most people met me, you wouldn't come away thinking that, 'oh, that woman must be a dean.' I wear jeans at every opportunity."

Forsburgh has three children and enjoys spending time with her family, horselsch riding, and looking after their menagerie of other animals. She is planning to travel out this month in search of an acreage just outside of the city. On the whole, she added, the whole family—including the animals—is looking forward to the move to Edmonton.

"I have asked the horses for their opinion on the move, but they haven't voiced any objections. I take that as passive approval."



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4 NEWS tuesday, 5 april, 2005

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Provincial bill moves closer to forcing minors into AADAC drug rehab

AADAC concerned the bill won't address the lack of capacity or resources

JASLEEN MAHIL

A controversial bill that would force unwilling Alberta teenagers into drug treatment passed its second reading on 21 March.

Bill 202, better known as the Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act, would allow guardians to request that the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC) admit their child into a treatment program if they suspect them of abusing alcohol or drugs.

The commission will then assess and determine if the minor is using drugs and if formal treatment is needed.

If treatment is laid out by AADAC and the child refuses, the parents of the child may apply for a court order allowing the police to apprehend the individual and place them into a secure facility.

"The parents can take the assessment and evidence from the [AADAC] panel to the judge and say, "We want our child in mandatory treatment but they won't cooperate," explained Red Deer Conservative MLA Mary Anne Jablonski, who introduced the bill

"Then it will be up to the judge to grant an order to pick the child up and to put the child into a secure facility," explained Jablonski.

"When the child is picked up they will be given their rights and they will be able to phone a lawyer but they will still be in secure treatment." A major argument against the bill is that it violates the rights of children, as determined by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

and Freedoms.

But Jablonski feels the bill is needed to help parents help their addicted children.

"What worries me is whether or not you can drag people into treatment with a big hope of success... However, there may be some cases where the individual's reaction is ultimately going to be, "Thank God."

DR DAVID COOK, U OF A PHARMACOLOGY PROFESSOR

"Parents have told me that when something is wrong with their child and they believe it is drug addiction, there is nothing they can do to help their child. They have to watch their child go downhill, become a criminal, get arrested, and maybe go into prostitution," said Jablonski.

"I think the rights and duties of the parents to ensure the safety and health of their child is paramount over the right of the child to take drugs."

Marilyn Mitchell, manager of youth services at AADAC, explained that

while AADAC's policies support the legislation, they are concerned about the amount of space and resources available. Mitchell said these concerns need to be addressed first.

"It is one thing to pass the bill, but will the resources and support to deliver this be available? A lot of questions need to be answered, like how are we going to coordinate the services? And how are we going to provide appropriate individualized treatment and then transition support back into the community?" asked Mitchell.

Dr David Cook, a University of Alberta pharmacology professor, also has concerns regarding the bill, including whether mandatory treatment will equate to success.

"What worries me is whether or not you can drag people into treatment with a big hope of success. It would depend on a whole variety of circumstances. However, there may be some cases where the individual's reaction is ultimately going to be, "Thank god," he said.

But Cook's overall view of the bill remains skeptical. He believes that the best way to come up with effective solutions to help addicts is to get people to work together.

He also notes that it is important to realize that drug addiction arise from many different problems.

many different problems.

"This [Bill 202] may be a part of a larger solution and it may be a useful part of a larger solution, but by itself I am confident that it is not the answer."



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OPINION

Zimbabwe needs a real election. and soon

CALLS FOR A NEW federal election have been increasingly loud over the last week here in Canada Some members of the opposition parties are hoping that apparently damning evidence given at the federal sponsorship inquiry-a publication ban has prevented the release of what, exactly, the evidence is—may be the straw that breaks the Liberals' backs after years of various corruption scandals that have yet to see them voted out of office

Meanwhile, in Zimbabwe, there are also loud calls for a new election after the ruling ZANU-PF party earned huge gains in a parliamentary election that the opposition says was plagued by intimidation threats. Canada just might get that new electio Zimbabwe, which is in far greater need of one, almost certainly will not. If only there were some way we could give them ours

There was little or no open violence during Zimbabwe's election, unlike previous votes in 2000 and 2002, but it nonetheless seems likely that the process was anything but free and open. A report by the independent Zimbabwe Election Support Network said that the election was conducted in "a climate of fear," that "traditional leaders threatened their subjects with eviction and sometimes unspecified action should they fail to vote for the ruling party. and that "intimidation included the politicization of

While an observer group from South Africa-American and European Union observers were no allowed to enter the country-gave its approval to the elections. Dianne Kohler, one of its members, disas sociated herself from the statement, saying, "This sham of an election has been one of the most cynical electoral frauds perpetrated on the international commu nity in electoral history." And President Robert Mugabe has openly declared that he will have police put a stop to any demonstrations against the election results.

Unfortunately, legitimate or not, the results proved disastrous. ZANU-PF's electoral gains give President Robert Mugabe control of over two-thirds of Zimbabwe's parliament—enough that he can now essentially amend the country's constitution at will. He's already signaled that he intends to do so, in multiple dangerous ways. The 81-year-old intends to replace the sections of the constitution that would require a presidential election should he die while in office, preferring that one of his deputies would automatically succeed him. He also wants to create a Senate that he would appoint personally (the obvious joke about Canada's Senate is out of place here), which would make it virtually impossible for the opposition to pass reforms even if it did eventually gain control of the parliament's "elected" House.

Zimbabwe is in a terrible situation right now Violence, unemployment and food shortages are commonplace, while HIV and AIDS continue to exacerbate the situation. The country is in desperate need of change, but if the election results are allowed to stand that change could be a very long time in coming.

JAKE TROUGHTON

An apology

LAST THURSDAY, A LETTER appeared in the opinion section titled "Yes, it does," attributed to Thomas Hauk. As the first letter on this page explains, this was written by someone else who felt the need to attach Mr Hauk's name to it, ostensibly as a joke. I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to Mr Hauk for the errorvas not as diligent as I should have been in checking to confirm that this letter was, in fact, from him,

I would also like to express my disappointment with UACS over their choice of "joke." While I can certainly appreciate a prank, attaching someone else's name to something they have not written is grossly irresponsible, to say nothing of the fact that I did check to confirm the letter was from Mr Hauk, and was openly lied to. I would expect better from an organization that is supposed to be representing students.

DAVID BERRY

LETTERS

The real Thomas Hauk

Regarding your letter from Thomas Hauk in the 31 March issue ("Yes, it does"): apparently, I have been the victim of a so-called April Fool's Day joke, which happened a little —helpful hint: April Fool's Day is in April, not March.

Two things concern me about the stunt. First, that someone thought it was okay to sign someone else's name to his or her words. Maybe this is what identity theft feels like. As well. I'm concerned that a Universitysanctioned body, the Undergraduate Association of Computing Science, did this. Perhaps those "elected" don't have enough to do with their official duties. That's sad I guess it's a lot to expect from a student body whose candidates routinely are up against-and occasionally lose tocans of Spam for executive posts.

I'm also surprised at the rather inadequate checking of the Gateway to actually make sure that, if they get a letter from someone, they'r actually sure that person wrote it Try confirming with a University of Alberta e-mail address nevt time, and forget anything coming from Gmail. I'm surprised that the Gateway didn't even check to see if I

Even if this letter had been published on April Fool's Day, it's still pretty uncool to put words in omeone's mouth and then publish them. Try Scotch Taping someone's mouse next time, UACS—it's a lot more legal.

Once and a while the wrong people get involved with good organizations, and I know that LIACS as a whole isn't represented by the actions of one selfish person, and I hope they clean up their own house. And hopefully, the CS department is kind enough to buy UACS a calendar for next year, just in case they have more "jokes" they want to plan.

THOMAS HAUK

Alvin Law clarifies SU food sales

This letter is just to inform you of an inaccuracy in the article "SUB bans student food sales" (31 March). Students' Council did not make the decision-this was an operational decision made by my office Students' Council does not, and should not, be dealing with the dayto-day operation of our building.

As well, it must be noted that this is solely for table rentals, as we currently do not have a means to ensure that food being sold from tables is in compliance with health regulations, and that the SU is doing what they can to protect student health and prevent lawsuits

I think it must be stressed that this does not restrict student groups from having events within venues and bringing in external food items for fundraising in venues. Just to clarify, the decision means that student food sales are not banned in SUB, but only prohib ited to be sold through our table-

> ALVIN LAW VP (Operation U of A Students' Union



God bless Tess Elsworthy's parents

I am writing in response to the article written 31 March, entitled "Abortion is not genocide." Now, although the author of this article, Tess Elsworthy, clearly has no problem with aborting fetuses. I just want to say although her opinion on abortion strongly differs from mine—I have thr daughters and chose to drive by the Morgentaler Clinic instead of going inside to stop the life that was grow ing in my wife's womb in each of our hree pregnancies—I am glad Ms Elsworthy's parents chose to con tinue her life when she was a fetus in her mother's womb. I am thankful her parents did not bring her to an abortion clinic to stop her heart that was beating in her mother's womb Because, even though Ms Elsworthy may have a different, pro-choice nion regarding abortion than have I am still glad that her life, even in the fetal stage, did not end while it was in her mother's womb. Ms Elsworthy. I thank God you were born and not aborted!

JEAN-PAUL MAHE

A few tips on cunnilingus, White

I am not writing to join the chorus of others before me complaining about the deteriorating quality of the opinion section as a whole. This letter is part of my constructive effort to contribute to the quality of the Gateway, mainly by preventing a potentially gullible male readership from picking up some very destructive notions about cunnilingus from the 24 March opinion article by Christopher White

Firstly, I am a bit at a loss about his idea that the design of the male body would invite the kneeling of the fellating woman-to my humble knowledge, male genitals are situated at the exact same spot of the human body as are women's Furthermore, White's analogy of comparing the performance of oral sex on a woman with getting caught

between the hind legs of a bull is not only offensive, but also involuntarily humorous, considering the chosen animal's sex. Without being overly facetious. I would suggest that it his experience is comparable to the above analogy, the woman in question was most likely buckling in pain, not pleasure—after all, the average clitoris has more nerve endings than the average head of a penis in a fraction of the area.

As to the comment about get ting "a temporary case of jaw rickets." I will quote some wisdom from Tracy Cox's commendable book Hot "The tongue movements are gentle, and if a guy can't keep them up for at least ten to 15 minutes, his tongue's too tense or he's doing it too fast." There is a ton of informa tion out there on how to please a woman, but—gasp!—you won't find it by Googling "cunnilingus"; instead, you might have to go to the sex section of a bookstore and then buy a book that has-gasp!-been written by a woman. Let me know some time how that worked out for

CATRIN BERGHOFF

Legislature should lower its flag

Every weekday, I walk to class, dreading the thought of the long walk across the High Level Bridge. Such a route takes me past our Legislature and the three flags that sit above it the Albertan Canadian and British flags. As I understand it, during a time of grief for many citizens, these flags are lowered to symbolize the government sharing in that emotion—events such as heads of state passing away, or representatives of the government falling in the line of duty, or the respected head of a major religion dving after a lengthy

However, an interesting event has occurred the other day. I saw the Canadian flag, hanging limply, at half-mast. Looking to its left, there is the British flag, on a smaller pole, but also at half-mast. Finally, I see the Albertan flag, floating majestically-

Very peculiar. Maybe the provincial flag doesn't get lowered because there is a law that says it cannot be lowered for anything. On my way back, I see the Legislature again; nothing has changed. So I keep walking north and look to my right. There, not too far away, is a large building with its Canadian and Albertan flags at half-mast. Turns out it's the Alberta justice building—where the deputy minister and other bureaucrats spend their time

Not being a Catholic or conservative in politics, I feel no gaping hole in my life now that the Pope has passed away. I respect him for his efforts towards peace and his leadership over the Catholic Church for longer than I have been alive, but found his politics not to my liking. Nonetheless, t would be a polite gesture for our elected officials to lower the provincial flag. Sadly, this is the second time I have noticed this phenomenon. Last month, when the four Mounties were killed, the Alberta flag was also at full mast

Maybe its just me, but that's pretty offensive. The government should care about influential foreign leaders enough to lower the flag-or, at the very least, its own voters. So, my conclusion is that our various elected officials see themselves as above feeling remorse for anyone else .. naw. Since this is Ralph's world-his words, not mine-we are all friends. Well, that's what I'll tell myself every time I walk past the Legislature

ROB ALBRIGHT

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous submissions will not be considered.

6 OPINION tuesday, 5 april, 2005





Thank You!

Thank You to all Student Groups for their hard work in 2004-2005. The many volunteer hours you have put in, the numerous events you have planned and the variety of services you provided are greatly appreciated by campus.

Registration

Registration for all Student Groups for the 2005-2006 school year will begin on April 15th online at www.su.ualberta.ca/studentgroups

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Calling John Paul 'the Great' is just some meaningless hero-making



DAVID BERRY

Among the endless reports on the Pope's death-everything from how he died to how he's being mourned to his replacement—one story stands out: numerous sources have reported on how Cardinal Angelo Sodano's homily to the Pope included the words "John Paul the Great." This is important for two reasons: first, Vatican documents are automatically considered official from the time ev are delivered, and even though Sodano did not actually say the words in his address, they were in the docunt, and as such, should confer the title to the recently departed pontiff. Second, and perhaps more importantly, the title "the Great" has been bestowed upon two popes pre-vious, both of whom are also consid-

Now, avoiding the endless amount of speculation as to whether or not John Paul will be officially recognized as "the Great," this points to a much larger phenomenon in recent times: the desperate search for, for lack of a better word. "Proces."

Almost endlessly over the past few years—if not much longer—nearly anyone of note has managed to earn some sort of overblown significance. Mother Thereas, to use another Catholic example, was beatified almost instantly after her death—no small amount of praise, given that sainthood is, you know, a little selective, to say the least—but it's hardly restricted to the Church.

In the wake of 11 September, nearly everyone from George W Bush to Rudy Giuliani to New York firefighters were branded as heroes. Ronald Reagan's death caused many to label him a "hero," and significantly prominent athletes and actors get similar treatment. Even something as seemingly insignificant as CRS of Greatest Canadian was little more than an attempt to manufacture some national heroes by holding a popularity contest.

Nearly anyone worthy of the slightest bit of note is puffed up to superhuman status, compared to names in textbooks, and almost immediately crammed into the pantheon of the great by a host of people hoping their chosen one will stick.

This, to put it rather simply, is an age in desperate need of heroes. Nearly anyone worthy of the slightest bit of note is puffed up to superhuman status, compared to names in textbooks, and almost immediately crammed into the pantheon of the great by a host of people hoping their chosen one will stick. Humanity, it seems, needs its heroes so desperately that, when it's met with an absence of the great, or the truly exceptional, it's willing to bestow the title on whoever comes closest.

Of course, when everyone is great, no one is. Such constant attempts at forcing another "great" person onto the masses only serve to further cheapen the idea of the great individual, creating an ever-wider vacuum. When nearly every month another "hero" dies, it's hard to revere any of them, and instead, we only serve to dilute our already watered-down definition of greatness, and make the void that much bigger. Naturally, of course, our only solution is to add another name to the list, and we get stuck in a spiral that leaves us both unsatisfied and with ever-decreasing criteria of what should satisfy us, which we never manage to meet

It's even sadder when you con sider the fact that humanity has never really recognized greatness in its own time—indeed, most of those who are now considered to be great were ostracized during their particular era, from Nietzsche to Gogh to countless others. Something our society seems to be forgetting is the fact that the real test of greatness isn't how many people cry over your casket and call you "great," but how one stands up to the test of time. No amount of momentary ballyhooing and conferring of titles seems to change that fact that it is history that decides the conquerors, so to speak, If anything, as I mentioned above, this endless trumpeting of the good as "great" only serves to sink us further into an age of empty icons and half-hearted heroes.

That said, I suppose this momentary glut of praise for John Paul II is hardly out of place—it is, after all, common practice to speak highly soft those of us who are no longer short filing around this mortal coil. Still, though, propping him up to some mythic status afforded to all too many these days sense a lot more like the empty gesture of a society that needs a role model than an earnest appreciation of him. We'd probably be much better off to let history decide his place.

Five-second rule raises all kinds of questions



OSTA

I've always said that, for all its lowestcommon-denominator-pandering and prosaic ideas, television can teach you some very important life lessons. Why, just the other day, as I watched an old VHS tape of *The X-Files* I had recorded—or pirated, as it's called now—I saw the commercial that first taught me about the five-second rule.

Å man was watching his son as the child dropped a cookie on the floor. While scolding his son for attempting to pick up the cookie, he reflects to himself. "I'm telling my son not to eat this cookie, while all the time I'm thinking, "Five-second rule: that cookie's still good!"

Now for those who don't know, the five-second rule states that if a piece of food is dropped onto a surface that is not wet, sticky, or genitals, you can still eat it if you pick it up within five seconds. After that fifth second, devouring of said food would grant you the title of "social outcast."

When I first learned about this rule, my curiosity was thoroughly piqued, so I decided to do some research into its history. From what I have dis"[Genghis Khan] first determined howlong it was safe for food to remain on a floor when dropped there. Khan had slightly lower standards, though—he specified twelve hours, more or less. It's been said that he died from fever after falling off a horse, but I'm starting to think it was something he ate."

covered, the five-second rule dates back to the days of everyone's favourite Mongolian warlord, Genghis Kahn. He first determined how long it was safe for food to remain on a floor when dropped there. Khan had slightly lower standards, though—he specified twelve hours, more or less. It's been said that he died from fever after falling off a horse, but I'm starting to think it was something he are.

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A few other interesting facts came up. According to a study done at the University of Illinois, 70 per cent of women and 56 per cent of men are familiar with the five-second rule, and most use it to make decisions about tasty treats that slip through their fingers.

Also, women are more likely than men to eat food that's been on the floor. But the most disturbing fact discovered is that if you drop your food on a floor that contains micro-organisms, the food can be contaminated in five seconds

What does this tell us? Well, for one, women seem to like a pinch of floorboard with their food. But also, it tells us that this rule is more of a myth, like the idea that the world is flat. If food can be contaminated in less than five seconds, there are really only a few things left to do. We could shorten the length of the rule, based on measurements of the reaction times of men and women for picking up dropped food. However, that kind of study would require things like government grants, which would be hard to acquire; considering that it's a scientific study about food on the floor.

I'm not quite sure what kind of lesson we should take from all this. Perhaps it's that, if you have an open mind, even benign topics can lead to interesting facts. Maybe it's that everything should be looked at critically, even I'V commercials from 1997. Or, it could be that we shouldn't be so willing to indulge our own gluttony as to pick up every morsel that our grubby, instant-gratification, no-self-control fingers can't keep a hole of. Or maybe I should just lay off the

OPINION THE GATEWAY + volume XCIV number 44

There are more important animal The Walrus Essay Contest rights issues than the seal hunt



So, the Canadian seal hunt has started and Christmas has come early. "Now that's a strange thing to say," you might be thinking. "Christmas is still nine months away. Is he retarded?" Not so! Christmas, as I'm sure you've noticed, no longer carries with it the onerous burden of calendrical religious significance that it once did. Instead, it has become something of a commercial event where, in response to prefabricated morality-inducing social cues and appeals to goodwill, people are a little more easily parted with their earnings, a little more attentive to calls for help.

And so this, for animal rights grou is Christmas. Perhaps you think that seal-hunt protests and those commercials you see on TV are about stopping barbarism and preventing the immi nent extinction of harp seals. It sounds plausible enough: those clubs and hooks aren't there to poke and tickle, and if we neglect the fact that seals breed, their population would be deci-mated in a mere five years. Yet surely there are better candidates for public attention. Domesticated cattle have no freedom to roam, little potential to breed, and are injected with hormones and antibiotics to compensate for the squalid conditions in which they are raised. The poor Parowan tiper beetle is already facing extinction. Doesn't anybody care about the tiger beetle? Won't somebody think of the cows?

The truth of the matter is that the harp seal population isn't in any danger and the seals at large aren't being treated any worse than domesticated animals. So, why all the fuss? Because people are gullible, chickens are ugly, and fuss brings in an awful lot of money. Harp seals, in case you haven't noticed, or are a callous asshole, are pretty cute. They have big, dark, cutie-pie eyes with long



HUNTING FOR PUBLICITY Seals are cute, but there are bigger issues.

lashes. They are both fat and jolly. They seem helpless and stupid, like babies. So the violent clubbing of their tiny heads is understandably upsetting to those whose familiarity with nature and death amounts to little more than some regrettable incidents of roadkill.

Enter, stage right, the animal welfare industry, pleading for the financial wherewithal to stop this atrocity. Now, I'm sympathetic to some of the ostensible goals of animal welfare organizations: respect, minimization of cruelty, and the protection of endangered species and biodiversity. Humankind, for the most part, is boorish, arrogant, insensitive and short-sighted, so I think that efforts to make people more mindful of the world around them, and to protect the world from our rapacious tendencies, are commendable. But not when those efforts hinge on ignorance, hysteria, and bad science. Harp seals have become the symbol of the animal welfare industry not because their population is threatened, not because they are treated with exceptional cruelty, nor even because they represent some larger issue of animal rights. Seals are important because they're an easy sell.

By placing the survival and success of their organizations above scientific honesty and the welfare of the very animals they claim to defend, many animal-rights groups have sold off their credibility and lost the power to effectively create lasting and meaningful change. There are more than enough legitimate causes to occupy the time and attention of every animal welfare group in existence. By snatching for easy money at the expense of longterm sustainability, the animal welfare industry shows the same damning short-sightedness as those industries

I just can't wait to get back to the country, boy



Five years. As of this Monday, that's how long I've now resided in this concrete dustbowl the locals affectionately refer to as "Edmonton." Half a decade of lessons learned and truths revealed. And one of those truths, I've come to realize is this: I can't wait to leave

I moved here at the tender age of 17, while still in high school, to take a job working evenings for Inland Concrete. Inland offered relatively lucrative pay when compared to the minimum wage positions I'd held at various gas stations and local campgrounds, and I knew I'd have to make the move before September of that year to attend the of A anyway. So, I loaded up what few worldly possessions I owned-my favourite basketball, a pair of adjustable dumbbells, and my Bruce Springsteen Greatest Hits CD-into the back of a beat-up Chevy half-ton, and drove an hour west from my parents' farm, tears streaking down my face as I navi-

ed the familiar stretch of gravelthen-asphalt to the big city. Of course, I'd been to the city hundreds of times before-my extended family resides here, my parents came to town at least once a week to shop and visit, and I probably played basketball in every high-school gym in the city-but I'd never lived in a city.

Initially shocked that I had to begin both locking my doors and wearing clothes outside, I quickly settled into urban life. Admittedly, as a soon-to-belegal-aged adult, the city did hold some interesting options, namely numerous establishments of debauchery I was eager to investigate. However, five years later, all the allure of the bar scene has long since faded away, and in its place I've been left with a bitter, dry taste in my mouth that I don't think is attributable to the booze

Surrounded by thousands of people in the city, but only knowing a few, I'm never alone, but it often seems lonely Contrast that to the small handful of people I was surrounded by growing up, all of whom I knew, and I was often beautifully, exquisitely alone—but never lonely. There aren't any gravel roads here, but the streets seem far dirtier and much dustier than back home. Instead of fields and barns, I see

olate parking lots and apartmen buildings. I can still howl along with the neighbourhood dogs, but that's only until someone from another concrete box yells at both me and the dog to shut up. Where's the smell of freshly cut hay, the open space, the fresh air, or the 1:10 000 police officer to square kilometre ratio? I can't even piss outside without violating some sort of bylaw, never mind go paint-balling in the back yard on a whim, or drive on the wrong side of the road because there's less ice on that side.

It's not that E-town is all bad-Value Village, bicycle commuting, and a surprising number of Elvis fans are notable exceptions to my anti-urban philosophy-but I've never felt comfortable in the city. Truth told, I'm a fairly private person who likes a lot of personal space, and urban life has never been conducive to that end.

You know, every time I visit my grandfather, my car hood held down by a piece of bailer twine and a bungee cord, he always remarks that, "You can take the boy off the farm, but you can't take the farm out of the boy. Well, another eight months and I can finally put the boy back on the farm east some semblance thereof, and I can't wait.

The Walrus magazine invites university and college students to submit a short essay on the future of Canada. The topic is as follows:
What will be the most pressing issue to face the next generation of Canadians, and what should be done about it?

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The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole **Student Spirit**

future, because I have faith that most human beings want to do the right thing. If we can put aside differences of ideology, if we can learn to love one another, then one day we will enjoy a world where no one need live in fear, where no one need go hungry, where everyone can enjoy a good education, the fellowship of friendly neighbours, and the security of a world at peace with itself at long last."

The Late, The Hono Dr. Lois E. Hole, CM, AOE In memory of the late, The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole and her remarkable generosity of spirit, the University of Alberta Alumni Association has created a \$7,500 award named in her honour.

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OPINION tuesday, 5 april, 2005

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Senate works just fine the way it is



PRIISAKOWSKI

When the word "Senate" is uttered. the usual associations most Canadians make are with a room of empty seats, octogenarians who begin every sentence with, "In my day ..." or the thing Alberta thinks needs more Once upon a time, these criticisms or complaints may have had some merit, but in the last decade the Senate has rehabilitated itself and returned to quietly filling the primary role it was designed for-a "house of sober second thought.'

It may be the words "sober" and "thought" that Albertans and propots of the triple-E-effective, equ and elected-Senate don't understand but they should be able to see that any attempt to reform the Senate is an obtuse idea that will only have negative effects on the chamber's role.

For instance, the very idea of equality that the Reform/Alliance/ Conservative party-and a number of Albertans-demand as part of reform is misguided at best. Sure, it beckons as a righteous way for the West to gain a greater slice of power-until you realize how ineffectual the change to equality would be.

Provinces west of Ontario would receive 23 per cent of the seats, while having 30 per cent of the population. "Currently, the 105 members of the Senate are appointed by the prime minister, and, as such, they lack any democratic mandate to fiddle with the workings of parliament. While this method of selection leads to patronage appointments, it also leads to a body more representative of Canadians.'

What the proponents of the "equality" aspect have forgotten-or aren't sufficiently math-savvy enough to figure out—is that Atlantic Canada would still have 29 per cent of the seats with just 7.3 per cent of the population, since everything has to be "equal." See, they're a region, and as such would get a roughly equal number of seats as Ontario, Québec or the West "regions," even though they only constitute a fraction of the population. While it's noble to argue for equality, it's highly unlikely that it would stifle complaints about the set-up of the Senate-it's still dispropor-

tionately powerful in some way Another cornerstone of the "triplebe elected. Currently, the 105 members of the Senate are appointed by the prime minister, and, as such, they lack any democratic mandate to fiddle with the workings of parliament. While this method of selection leads to patronage appointments, it also leads to a body more representative of Canadians. It sounds weird at first, but in reality, the current method of selection allows people from a cross-section of experience in academia, government, business, the arts and other diverse specialties to contribute to the governing of Canada, something increasingly necessary to act as a counterbalance to the lawyer/businessperson-heavy House of Commons.

While the appointments have been decried as undemocratic by many, not having to pander for re-elec tion allows senators to review current laws and recommend or take on changes—like decriminalizing marijuana-that make sense but are too politically hazardous for elected poli ticians to introduce, a function that would be lost under the principle of an elected Senate. Add to the impor tant stuff the more mundane tasks of meticulously reading legislation, correcting errors, and proposing helpful amendments, and senators do a job that may not have the flash of being an MP, but one that is equally impor tant for the Canadian government to function properly.

That the system already functions well is something that is lost on the proponents of the "triple-E Senate," and negates their demand for a "more effective" body. The Senate already provides a place for discourse and an arena of sober second thought where partisanship is curtailed to better serve Canadians

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Gap is slapping a 'for sale' sign on femininity



It's official: corporate America has just announced that femininity is for sale. The Gap is selling shades of pink to North American women this spring with their new billboards and commercials. Their spokeswoman is none other then Sarah Jessica Parker, the woman most commonly associated with the runaway hit Sex and the City.

This television show is the quintes sential tag line for what the Gap is pre senting this spring: women in power, enjoying their femininity and sexuality while bouncing around in their urban metropolis of a playground. These women are sexy, edgy, intelligent, and powerfully represented, yet still have time to go out with their best girlfriends and talk about their lives over martinis, coffee or dessert Parker is featured in a bevy of adver tisements flaunting pink, pearls and numerous types of lace as she walks down the street being admired and adored by chic urban men

Gap gets another slap on the hand for using a pop song to feed into the girly world of all things flowery and flowing. The song Parker sings while soaking up all that adoration, "I Enjoy Being a Girl," is from the musical Flower Drum Song. The musical itself is about tensions and love between two characters from two families that are inextricably different. This wicked musical actually features the song "I Enjoy Being a Girl" in a tongue-incheek manner, a light reprieve from the heavy subject matter to follow. Gap uses the song completely out of con-

I pick on Gap, but really, it seems that any particular company can sell a fashion as a means to express and identify oneself. Millions of dollars are spent each year on telling us about different products to buy and what these certain items represent. Need a great sex life? Well, men, Axe body spray will have women's shirt buttons popping open at bus stops. Virtually any phase of life can be matched with a type of vehicle: family? Van or SUV. Rich and the kids are gone? Hummer or Escalade. Just starting out? Civic. Neon. Accord What capitalism intends to create for us is a box set of people, cookie-cutter in fashion, much like Barbie dolls: the clothes you wear, the shoes you walk in, the ride you take and the hairstyle you possess make for easy reference as to what you stand for.

But, back to Gap: I hate to have to pull out the angry feminist card and wave it around like a hitchhiker trying to get to the promised land because let's face it, most women will agree

THE BURLAP

So, the Pope is dead now. This shouldn't be news to any of you, as it was the most public death since, well, Terri Schiavo died. Okay, so it's been two weeks filled with public death The point, dear reader, is that death should not be so public

Seriously, both the Pope and Schiavo ere deserving of more respect than the press showed them as they whored them all over the television. Worse so with Pope JPII, as some outlets-I'm looking at you CNN—had a grim "Pope death-watch" going on over the weekend, with non-stop Pope updates.

good thing. Gender identity is important, no doubt about it. I appreciate a good curling iron, the odd item of pink clothing and a non-clumping mascara, but seriously, is this the only way to define yourself? Dressing in the popular clothing of the masses? Gap reminds us that enjoying being a girl involves never-ending consumption, mostly in pink.

The critical thinkers and marketsavvy people viewing this campaign might just shrug their shoulders and give the ever-popular "meh" to yet another form of female identity con struction via consumption. Gap, and a slew of others, have expressed themselves and built their empires on marketing a "look" as a particular form of

I guess if you can't beat them you might as well join them. So, this spring, let's all announce our womanhood in pink and khakis, complimenting one another in the washroom on our (accidentally) matching outfits.

Seriously, about the only thing I didn't see was a Pope-death drinking game, where you take a shot whenever one of his organs fail.

Maybe I'm just old-fashioned, but I remember a time when death was a private event, attended to by friends and family. Heck, even the tens of thousands of faithful who flocked to pray for the Pope is something I can understand. But the protesters at Schiavo's bedside? The reporters, waiting with bated breath? The blogs that maintained regular updates on their conditions? I can only hope that when I go out, it's a huge freak show too.

SCOTT C BOURGEOIS

No real sack beatings are given.

A&E

Sinfully awesome

Sin City Directed by Robert Rodriguez, Frank Miller and special guest director Quentin Tarantin Stamina Bruce Willis, Jessica Alba, Mickey Rourke, Rosario Dawson, Benicio Del Toro, Elijah Wood and Clive Owen Now Playina

DANIEL KASZOR

Sin City is a balls-out, violent and interesting film-and surprisingly, it happened to come out of a major studio. While the overall plot of the film-a soaked-in-blood morality tale-is fairly simplistic, the visual style, hard noir mood and remendous ensemble cast more than make up

for any shortcomings.

The movie is stylized hyper-noir, where every film noir convention is pushed to its breaking point. The film follows three similar heroes. all macho tough guys who think with their fists and have an obsessive need to help out women in distress. The heroes' compulsion to do what they think is right often leads to death, violence and, usually, the protagonist's doom.

Arguably more important than the events of the story is the look and feel of the film. Sin City is in black and white, with everything in such high contrast that there are often shots without any grey, just huge swaths of shadow and light Breaking up the black and white are instances of colour: sometimes cars are blue, skin is vellow or blood is red. These colours contrast with the dark world around them

The movie was shot entirely with digital HD cameras (as opposed to film), with all of the actors performing in front of a green screen using methods similar to those used in Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow. Unfortunate the actors aren't quite as skilled as those in Sky Captain; Sin City's cast isn't always able to con vince themselves they're not acting on an empty soundstage

The performances by the huge star-filled cast are excellent, however-though sometimes the noir style of the movie makes everything seem a touch over-the-top; the fact that it doesn't become overly cheesy is a credit to the actors Mickey Rourke is particularly good as Marv. He not only makes his thick noir dialogue sound good, but he does so through a mountain of

If you look past the style of the film, though, the stories are rampantly misogynistic and vio lent. Women-even the most innocent and blameless-are vehicles of pain for the honourable good guys. Overall, there is an undertone connecting violence and sex, which seems, at best, unhealthy. However, just like everything else in the movie, this is just an extreme versi of part of the noir aesthetic

Despite the negatives, the film is a triumph The fact that co-director Robert Rodriguez, whose previous efforts have been relatively inconsistent (Desperado, Spy Kids, The Faculty) can put together a film with such a bold and distinct vision is tremendous. Sin City isn't like anything else out there, something that can't be said of much else at the multiplex



My roommate is a Texan roller-derby champion

Controller Controller

with Death From Above 1979 Wednesday, 6 April at 7pm

TYSON KABAN

At this year's South By Southwest (SXSW) music

festival in Austin, Texas, Toronto indie-rockers Controller.Controller performed two shows and re introduced to an American pastime more befitting the deep South than chomping down barbecue while shotgunning beer: roller derby.

"SXSW asked for volunteers to let bands with limited budgets crash at their places, and we stayed at the house of three lovely women who are rollerderby girls," quitar player Scott Kaija pleasantly recalls. "Right after SXSW, the whole band went to see one of the girl's

teams, so we saw a full-blown roller-derby match You wouldn't believe the audience, and there this full-blown Nashville Pussy-like rock band playing in between periods and a guy selling chili dogs and this huge monster-truck light ow," he says. "These girls were really violen and crazy. It's probably not only the highlight of the tour so far but quite possibly the highlight

Despite all the excitement, though, the band's quite happy to be back in Canada where they're embarking on a nationwide tour with Death From Above 1979.

With their unique sound and stage antics, the band's taking advantage of the music industry's

"These [roller-derby] girls were really violent and crazy. It's probably not only the highlight of the tour so far but quite possibly the highlight of my life."

SCOTT KAIJA, GUITARIST, CONTROLLER.CONTROLLER

Canadian indie-bands, even if it means being compared to their peers.

"The Arcade Fire was on the cover of Time and they talked about this Canadian indie-rock explosion. The nice thing about looking at the list of bands that they were featuring is that it's quite eclectic," Kaija says. "All these Canadian bands are so different. Death From

ous unremarkable adjectives-post-punk, death disco, indie-rock—Scott says their music speaks for itself

"I just think of ourselves as a band playing music. If I were to try and describe it to, say, my grandmother's friend or something, I'd just tell them that we're a rock band playing

our own music," he says. "But something that does make us different is that we put emphasis on movement and dancing. We jump around and dance around and move throughout the shows because

people watching us to do



10 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT tuesday, 5 april, 2005

U OF A ALUMNI PROFILE

Alumnus with hockey dreams became scientific all-star

When Raymond Lemieux, '43 BSc, '91 LLD (Honorary), was growing up in Lac La Biche and Edmonton, he dreamed of playing hock-ey for the Montreal Canadiens. He was a top scorer in the University of Alberra's interfaculty league, and his Arts and Science team beat out the Engineers for the championship during his last year of studies.



During the Depression, money was always a pressing issue in a choice of career, and as

far as Lemieux could tell, commercial chemists seemed to make decent salaries. "In those days there were only two kinds of guyz coming back to Edmonton with big cars: hockey players who made the NHL and scientists who made it to industry in the U.S.," he once told a reporter. Lemieux chose the latter path and became one of Canada's scientific all stars of the past century.

Considered by many the pioneer of modern carbohydrate chemistry, "Sugar" Ray Lemieux first gained widespread international attention when he synthesized sucrose in 1953, a challenge considered the "Mt. Everest" of carbohydrate chemistry. His later work, which revealed how carbohydrates bind to proteins, had important applications in everything from immunology to cancer treatment. Lemieux also pioneered the application of muclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy to chemistry.

Lemieux held honorary degrees from 15 universities around the world and received some of the world's most prestigious scientific awards, including the 1990 King Faisal International Prize in Science (Chemistry), the 1992 Alberta Einstein Award of Science, and the first-ever Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering, given to him in 1991. When he died in 2000 at age 80, Lemieux left a legacy of accomplishment from his time as a chemistry professor at the University of Alberta.



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Apostle of Hustle takes a lesson from Cuba

Apostle of Hustle

with Stars and Montag Dinwoodie Lounge Thursday, 7 April at 8pm

MICHAEL LAROCQUE

After a two-month stay with his grandmother in Cuba, Broken Social Scene guitarist Andrew Whiteman decided to start a band.

He put his foot through a sewer grate early on in his stay, and after leaving the Cuban hospital that he had to bribe his way into, Whiteman was stuck in Old Havana, forgoing popular tourist traps in exchange for an eightweek cultural experience of every thing the Cuban people had to offer. When he got back home, Apostle of Hustle was formed.

"I'm a hog, I'm a vulture. We have a hunger for all kinds of music."

ANDREW WHITEMAN,

"My time in Cuba really influenced me more on a human level than on a musical level, but that is what inspired the music," says Whiteman. "I had to say in the neighbourhood the whole time instead of being a normal tourst, so I basically got to hang out with old people and children for a couple of months. The Cubans are by and large a fantastically resource-ful people—they're the best recyclers on the planet—and I think that on a musical level, that is what is seen in the music."

A passionate recollection of recy-



cling might seem like an unusual source of inspiration, but its impact on Whiteman is clearly visible on Apostle's debut disc Folkloric Feel. A collage of borrowed styles and rhythms, the album is heavily influenced by Whiteman's stay in Old Havana—where he learned the tres, Spanish guitar—yet retains the importation that first made him a star in the Toronto indie-musis scene.

"Tm a bog. I'm a vulture." declares Whitman passionately. "We have a hunger for all kinds of music, and we tend to steal little chunks of music that we find and recast it in any kind of form that fits. We've been accused of being too dance or too eelectic, and that's probably because there is so much that we want to shove in. We're not trying to be puritiss at any rate at all. This record is a mutt; the band is a mutt, and it doesn't know its mother and father."

If Whiteman's devotion to his craft isn't already apparent, his attentiveness to his record should put the question to rest. Having recorded the entire album once already. Whiteman took the band back to the studio to do it again, declaring that while technically fine, the album just "didn't sound like itself."

"We had a finished version recorded about a year before the album actually came out, but when you listened to it you could tell that it wanted to be somewhere but it wasn't quite there yet. You could hear ideas and medidies and movements and rhythms and counter-rhythms, but it just wasn't where it needed to be. We knew we needed to do it again, so with the exception of one or two tracks, we did it again."

With a record out and the band playing live more nights than con, things are, as Whiteman puts it, "really starting to come together." Apostle of Hiusdle has since started touring around Europe and the United States, as well as playing numerous shows throughout Canada, moving them from a recording project to a bona fide live act. They've come a long way from a hospital bed in Cuba.





Marriage is one hell of a laughing matter

The Beaux'Stratagem

Studio Theatre
Directed by James DeFelice
Staming Justin Sproule,
Candice Wolashyn, Tracy Penner,
Stephen Kent, Reneltta Bourque
and Jonathan Glasgow
Timms Centre
Now Planina

AMANDA ASH Arts & Entertainment Writer

Outside of that incident at your cousin's wedding involving your uncle, an open bar and a severe lack of pants, marriage isn't usually terribly funny.

Studio Theatre's production of The Beaux' Stratagem, however, is plenty hillarious, and it just so happens to be about marriage—among other things.

Written by George Farquhar (who's known for his lively and colourful 17th-century dramas), The Beaux' Stratagem explores the usual Restoration drama themes of love, money, and deception.

Aimwell (Justin Sproule) and Archer (Stephen Kent) are two genthemen of broken fortune. In search of wives with hefty inheritances, the two conniving rogues find themselves at a country inn, with Aimwell posing as a lord and Archer disguised as his ser-

Aimwell eventually falls madly in love with Dorinda (Tracy Penner), an upper-class girl. At the same time, despite concurrent attempts to seduce the housemaid, Archer falls in love with Mrs Sullen (Candice Woloshyn), an unhappy wife married to the country fop Mr Sullen (Jonathan Glasgow). As the play progresses, the plot bursts into non-stop scheming, welcome and unwelcome seduction and provocative tomfoolery that ends in both marriage and divorce.

Tracy Penner does justice to her oblivious country-girl character by acting with cutesy charm and igno-

Stephen Kent also delivers a superb performance, and seduces not only every moving female onstage but also those in the audience. He's the ideal rake, full of wicked wit and alluring charisma.

Even though the play focuses on the main characters' marriage troubles and their ensuing comedic tidbits, the follies of eavesdropping servants and mischievous highwaymen add to the excitement.

Throughout the play, each and every minor character assists in conveying a complex and intertwining plot. Performances worth mentioning are those of Reneltta Bourque (Scrub) and Jonathan Glasgow.

Bourque (who's cast—with a bit of gender-bending—as a young male servant) adds energy and comic delight to the show. Glasgow's performance of a French-disguised Irish priest is clever and is worth a laugh and a half.

Over and above the many great performances, The Beaux Stratageum's success arises from director James Defelice's ability to tap into the essence of Restoration comedy. He reads between pseudo-Shakespearean lines and sin't afraid to portray the play's plethora of provocative allusions. In addition, the play ends with a tradi-



IAM 17TH CENTURY GOING ON 18TH Tracy Penner, Justin Sproule and Melissa Thingelstad in Studio Theatre's The Beaux' Stratagem.

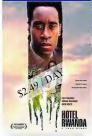
tional Restoration dance that brings out the comedic tensions between characters that have encompassed the

You may have thought getting drunk at weddings was amusing, but watching the scandalous advances and exploding arguments of The Beaux' Stratagem's comedic couples should convince you that the only things about marriage worth laughing about are on the stage.









Misery Signals reaches stardom by way of Milwaukee

Edmonton's Jesse Zaraska and Stuart Ross join up with some Milwaukee pals to form Misery Signals

Misery Sianals

with Strapping Young Lad, Agony Scene and Reflux Starlite Room

Tuesday, 5 April at 7pm

JAKE TROUGHTON Sports Editor

It's not uncommon for Canadian musicians to wind up in the United States, in places like Los Angeles, Nashville or maybe New York. But somehow, most of them manage to skip over Milwaukee.

Edmonton's Jesse Zaraska and Stuart Ross, though, have found a new musical home with their band Misery Signals, which formed out of the ashes of the Milwaukee-based band 7 Angels 7 Plagues.

They're outnumbered by the band's three Milwaukee-based members—Kyle Johnson (bass). Ryan Morgan (guitar) and Branden Morgan (drums)—but with a touring schedule that's kept the band on the road for nearly all of its just-over-two-year existence, there's no need to battle over whose hometown will be their base.

"It would say we spend an equal amount of time in Edmonton and Milwaukee, which is very little, for the most part. We spend most of our time on a bus or in the van fouring," says Zaraska from Liverpool, England. "The only time we're really home is just to rehearse before a tour."

Not that there's much to choose from between the two cities anyway, according to Zaraska.

"I would say those two cities are very similar," he says. "A lot of cities, when I first went to the States, were a lot different than Edmonton, but



Milwaukee's not one of them. The Midwest has got a very Canadian feel to it, very much a smaller-city feel. Even the music scenes are kind of similar. Edmonton's got a pretty thriving metal and hardcore scene right now, and Milwaukee's the same."

The hectic schedule that's kept Misery Signals away from home has taken them to England, Holland and Germany over the last month for their first foreign tour, and much to their surprise, they've found that their reputation preceded them.

"it's all new and pretty awesome for us," Zaraska says. "I never thought in a million years that kids would know our songs over here and know our words. It's been a great surprise; kids are singing along every night and requesting songs and stuff. We're not quite as big here as we are in the States, but it's pretty cool to come to a new country and see kids knowing who you are."

Zaraska's addition to the Misery Signals lineup came about after trag-edy struck his old Edmonton-based band, Compromise, when it was touring with 7 Angels 7 Plagues in the American South—something that continues to influence the musical course of the band.

"We were driving from Birmingham, Alabama to Savannah, Georgia one night, and a drunk driver hit us from behind. In the crash, both our guitar players died," Zaraska recalls. "A lot of the songs on Of Malice and the Magnum Heart deal with that, directly or indirectly. I try to write songs about things that are going to remain important to me." Zaraska stresses, though, that that

Zaraska stresses, though, that that doesn't mean the band or the album is depressing, but rather introspective and ultimately hopeful.

"The songs are more about dealing with things," he says. "I'm able to write songs and get that

"I'm able to write songs and get that kind of stuff out of me. There's definitely a light at the end of the tunnel; we're not all just crying into our beers every night."







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Starting over from almost scratch

Lowest of the Low

with Cory Sidetrack Café Tuesday, 5 April at 8pm

AMANDA ASH

Starting a band from scratch isn't simple, and for Lowest of the Low, starting over again isn't much easier.

After enduring overwhelming pressure and exhausting tour schedules, the band broke up in 1994. According to original member Stephen Stanley, the group started to fall apart following the release of their album Hallucigenia.

"We just reached a breaking point with each other. We spent the beginning three years of the '90s doing almost 300 shows a year," Stanley says. "There was a lot of pressure put on us by the record company and by ourselves to keep going, It was a shame because we were all really good friends."

For six years after the breakup, the band members hardly kept in contact. Despite pleas for a reunion show, Lowest of the Low continually rejected offers and kept pursuing their own interests. The separate members' endeavours were not nearly as prolific as Lowest of the Low had been, but the experience apart was a change for the better.

"Spending six years apart, we played with a lot of different people outside of the band. That really changes the way you think about music," Stanley

"When the band broke up, I became a lot more prolific and wrote a lot of songs. You are forced into a situation in which you have to think of a lot more things than when you are in a four-man unit."

Their time apart also made them consider playing together again. About three years after the split, Lowest of the Low was approached by a Toronto promoter whom they had worked with previously. After sitting down to talk it ower, the band finally accepted a

reunion-snow proposal.

"When we got together, a lot of
the old chemistry came right back,"
Stanley reminisces. "The first time
we played together again it was like,
"Wow." We all realized how much we
missed it, and that there was something unique about this band that
none of us have had with the other
bands we've been with."

In order to maintain their friendship and sanity this time around, though, Stanley says some changes are going to be made, like reducing their touring schedule.

"Being on the road in a band is a

lot of fun for sure, but there is so much down time where there is nothing to do with yourself except drink or sleep," Stanley says. "It got very boring after a while and bred con-

tempt between us."

In addition to reducing touring pressures, the band hopes to take their talent overseas; Stanley wants to reach England, the States, Japan and Australia.

But the biggest goal for the band right now is to get back to work. Although starting over again isn't as hard as starting from scratch, Stanley still feels as though the new and improved Lowest of the Low must reconnect with fans.

"Even though we have a pretty loyal fan base out there, it is a lot harder to reach new people nowadays because radio and television are such closedoff avenues to bands like us. To go out as a band and reach new people is almost like starting from scratch."

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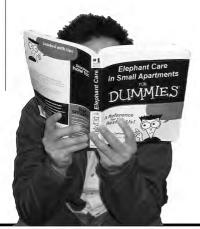
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Melissa Rebronja

Independent www.melissarebronja.com

AMANDA ASH inmont Writer

Embrace Yourself, Melissa Rebronja's debut album, suggests both confidence and self-appreciation. But keeping in touch with your "inner beauty doesn't necessarily render your shower-singing skills record-worthy.

Rebronja's CD, unfortunately, lacks the star quality and talent needed to succeed in the music industry. All of her tracks are soft-rock carbon copies of each other that include little musical accompaniment other than acoustic guitar. Her bland and barren tunes cease to dazzle the listener by revealing her inability to gracefully perform ny high and low note:

All of Rebronja's tracks lack colour and originality with the exception of "Life is Good," a catchy blend of upbeat rock tunes that suits her better than her melancholy droning. Melissa even takes a courageous leap in remaking Oasis' infamous rock song "Wonderwall," but brutally destroys its immortal soul by remolding it into elevator music.

Embrace Yourself would sound good as background music in a bar after a couple of drinks, but other than that Rebronja shouldn't count on a career in music



Kent McAlister and His Band

Copperspine Records www.copperspine.com

ADAM GAUMONT nt Write

Vancouver country crooner Keni McAlister (and his band, mind you) are Canadian through and through, and proud of it. Comparable to other Canuck alt-country acts such as the Corb Lund Band, McAlister makes his nationality clear on the album's title track, "Memory Replacer." "You were like an American beer," he sings. "You looked fine on the outside, my dear." Ouch

Throughout the rest of the album, however, McAlister et al employ a decidedly American-sounding tradi-tional country style. Songs like "Play 'ern Right" and "The Gypsy Song" evoke that dusty bottle, broken poolcue feel, reminding one more of a Texas saloon than an east Van night-

Though his vocals are generally flat and low-key, it is McAlister's guitar playing that stands out. From the fast finger-pickin' and bottle-neckin' of "Things You Say" to the flamenco-inspired playing on "Leavin' Town," the axe takes centre stage throughout. Add in a tight, rootsy backup band and some catchy, foot-tapping ditties, and you've got yourself a lesson in Can-Am musical relations.



The Nein

Sonic Unvon

TONY SANTIN

Maybe there's something in the water in North Carolina, or maybe one or more of The Nein's hand members was risited by the spirit of Frank Zappa. Whatever happened, this quartet from the Tar Heel State felt compelled to use an existing sound and take it to new

The Nein's latest offering takes on the at times dance-punk, at other tim lo-fi sound that has been so popular in the alternative underground scene, and takes all sorts of liberties with it. While maintaining the genre's distinc tive rhythms, the melodies are stripped completely. Unconventional sounds are the order of the day; the band uses everything from toy pianos to bubbling noises.

Make no mistake: this is a weird album to listen to, and yet there is something oddly compelling about this record.

While the band shows that they are capable of making more typical dance-punk fare, tracks such as "Bleeding Elvis" and "Courtesy Bows to New Wave," are more indescribably different than anything out there right now. And in this case, being different is a good thing.



If this is the start of something new for Ocean Colour Scene, it looks like it will be an album or two before what they're going for is achieved.



www.thenein.com

ant Writer

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Sanctuary Records

TONY SANTIN

classic-rock-revival standard-bearers, has been going through something of an identity crisis over the last few years. In an attempt to grow musically, they have gone in some very different directions, with varied results.

2001's Mechanical Wonder saw them go completely pop, while 2003's North Atlantic Drift marked a return to their previous tried-and-true rock method. This pursuit for new musical grounds is continued on Workout. The group continues to make strong old-school rock like "Everything Comes despite sounding a bit too much like the Beatles on some of the slower tracks. But they also venture out into newer territory with songs such as the grandiose mod-rocker "Free My Name" and, yes, even a Celtic pop

But these aren't enough to make for a great new record. Workout feels more like a regular Scene album with a few extras thrown in. And as cool as "Free My Name" sounds, it doesn't feel like it fits in anywhere on the disc

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TONY SANTIN

inment Writer

When you think of hardcore rock. here are some elements that should come to mind: huge amounts of detuned minor-key guitar with heavy distortion along with intense screaming vocals

On hardcore outfit Norma Jean's latest disc, O God, The Aftermath, the hand has these features in ready quantity. In fact, it's about all they have. There is very little on this disc that would set it apart from any other album of the genre.

Although there is a brief flirta-

tion with originality on the track "Disconnecktie," which clocks in at over ten minutes, the record quickly returns to the same redundant format. Oddly enough, some have tagged the group as a Christian hardcore band, though it seems more likely that this was a wasted attempt to differentiate themselves in some way from their peers. In any case, this disc wears out in a hurry; only the most-ahem hardcore fans of the band and/or genre would need this one

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14 FEATURE tuesday, 5 april, 2005



a poor trade

Edmonton's prostitutes trade more than just sex. Often they trade their dignity, their health and sometimes even their lives. Alexander Witt investigates.

Although many of us like to think that prostitution is a world away from our lives on campus, university students and sex workers are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Working part-time in retail is not the only way to pay one's tuition, but it is reasonably safe. Prostitution, on the other hand, is one of the most dangerous jobs in the city which young people can get involved in.

On 25 January, Samantha Berg's body was found frozen in the snow on Edmonton's north side. Edmonton police labelled her death as "suspicious." The *Gateway* usually doesn't run stories about off-campus crime, but Berg's untimely death caught my attention. Even if she wasn't in university, she was only 19—the same age as most second-year students.

Andy Weller, an information officer with the Edmonton Police Service, said that Berg's case is not being investigated as linked to other, similar deaths currently. However, the "suspicious" label attached to her death means in police-force jargon that her case is being investigated with the same effort and resources as a homicide case.

If Berg's death was an isolated incident, and she was the first sex worker to disappear from the street, it is likely that it may not have received the attention it did, but Rachel Quinney, also 19 at the time of her death, was found murdered last summer. There have been many others before them.

At a vigil outside St Faith's Anglican Church the Saturday after Berg's body was found, there were placards with the names and faces of many other young sex workers who have been found dead under suspicious circumstances. One man carried a poster on which he had written Berg's down as the twelfth victim of sex-trade related murder in the circ

Counting the number of sex trade workers who have died under suspicious circumstances in and around Edmonton is difficult, and as such there is a certain level of confusion as to exactly how many have been killed. Every time a new article is written on the issue, new numbers of victims appear in new time frames.

Wayne Oakes, an RCMP spokesperson, explained that figuring out the exact number is difficult. He counted only the investigations Project KARE—an RCMP-led unit which works on unsolved homicides and disappearances of high-risk persons, like sextrade workers—is currently undertaking.

"Project KARE is currently investigating 40

homicides and 38 missing persons cases across the province of Alberta," said Oakes.

Berg's death is not included among these cases, as it is being investigated by the FPS instead—KARE and EPS investigations remain separate, mainly depending on the jurisdictions in which the victims' bodies surface—although she did give personal information to KARE investigators in the case that she die in suspicious circumstances. Many city sex workers have given KARE information to ald investigations, and incipating a worst-case scenario.

The dangers of being a sex trade worker

"There is an inherent risk in the lifestyle [of sex workers]," explained Weiler.

A sex worker on the street has no prior knowledge about the guy who picks her up—otherwise known as a "John"—what he wants to do with her, or where he's going to take her. She is in a position to be easily victimized.

Dawn Hodgins, a former prostitute who now works with the Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton (PAAFE), described how she was abused when she was on the streets.

"I've been thrown from cars, beaten, I've had my hair cut off from my ponytails, I've been raped," she said. In street jargon, this sort of experience is called a "bad date."

In other words, prostitution is nothing like it's



portrayed in movies like Pretty Woman.

"[That movie is] the biggest crock of crap I've ever heard," said Hodgins. "No guy is with you long enough to get to know you that well. No guy is going to fall in love with the girl on the corner in 20 minutes."

Prostitution is very impersonal, and Hodgins explained that the men involved often dehumanize sex workers.

"I think that the dynamic that's created by street prostitution makes it really easy for almost any man to become violent," she said.

She points out that researchers at www.prostitutionresearch.com have found that the mental toll of prostitution on women is often on a similar level to that of the post-traumatic stress disorder experienced by Vietnam war veterans.

"Everything is different on the street. ... You have to learn how to survive. ... You learn to get things by violence when you're on the street, whether it's verbal violence or physical violence, because the street is survival of the fittest." said Hodgins.

Sex workers are often afraid to report "bad dates" to the police. It was with this knowledge in mind that Crossroads, an organization that offers support to prostitutes, was formed. Crossroads circulates information among street prostitutes, which helps them know which vehicles violent Johns are driving. On average, Crossroads learns of three or four bad dates per month.

Gail Meek, a spokesperson for the organization, was reluctant to speculate on how many sex workers may have shared Berg's fate.

"In fact, we've still got a number of girls missing that haven't been heard from. Every time we have somebody missing that we haven't heard from in a while, we all tense up," said Meek.

Stuck in the sex trade

PAAFE recently compiled a study addressing some of the most serious problems facing women involved in prostitution.

"On average, it's eight or nine years that [prostitutes] are involved in the trade," said Hodgins, who was on the street herself for five years.

The stereotypical prostitute begins turning tricks at 15. She runs away from home because she is not getting along with her parents, and falls in with the "wrong crowd," which sympathizes with the young woman's difficulties.

"It takes one sweet-talking guy to show her a bit of attention," explained Meek.

She added that many are not even aware they are practicing prostitution, as they tend to start by exchanging sex for things like lodging. Then a girl's self-esteem will plummet and she will begin to fea as if she has no choice but to continue prostitution. Hodgins explained that she always felt like she had no alternative while tracticine prostitution.

no alternative while practicing prostitution.
"I believed this was the life for me," she said.
Low self-esteem is also an important contributor to drug use, rampant among prostitutes. Meek estimates that 93 per cent of street prostitutes use

drugs.
"Very few [prostitutes] will do a trick straight.
They're either always high or half intoxicated," she said.

She added that drug use makes prostitution very hard to get out of. Those who escape can be drawn

back to the streets to make extra cash when they're desperate for it, and they can sink back into drugs very quickly.

"Your self-esteem goes low, and all you have to do is walk into one of your old crack dealers ... they buddy you up, and boom, you're hooked again," said Meek

According to Hodgins, drug use and prostitution often form a vicious cycle.

"I needed drugs to go to work, and I needed to go to work to get drugs." She had a \$750 per day drug habit when she was working the streets, which is by no means above average. She added that sex with a prostitute today goes for as little as \$20, just enough for a crack hi.

After all of this, it seemed unlikely that university students would be involved in the sex trade. But Meek disagreed, even though she conceded that it probably isn't common. Prostitution, she pointed out, is not limited to standing on a street corner in a mini-skirt.

"Tm sure it happens in university because [some students] need to make that extra cash. ... However, just because they're not into the drugs and that way of life, they don't think of it as prostitution ... they keep it indoors so nobody knows about it." She added that Crossroads doesn't interact with any students involved in the sex trade.

The sex trade and university

Are there any students on campus having sex for cash? Due to the reluctance of most people to discuss their interactions with the profession, it's hard to tell. However, if one asks around, there are rumours that some female students are involved in the sex trade, albeit on "the inside."

Eighty per cent of the sex trade is called "the inside," which includes escort services and massage parlours (the latter are sometimes known as "rub n' tugs"). It is widely believed that street-working prostitutes only comprise 20 per cent of the city's sex industry. While some have described the street prostitute population as too transient to count, Meek said that two years ago, 229 street-working prostitutes (none of whom were students) were registered with Crossroads, although she believes that number has grown since. This means that the number of people involved on "the inside" is most likely huge.

Escorts are far more capable of ensuring their safety than street sex workers. Some companies require that Johns give them their credit card numbers before connecting them with their dates.

Escorts also ensure their safety by keeping in touch with someone throughout the evening. An escort calls her contact with her destination when she gets a date, calls again upon arrival, again after the date is over, and once more upon safe arrival at her base.

The rumours of female students involved on the inside, whatever their truth, may have been fostered by the publicity of one escort agency, Liaison Escort Services, which attempted to recruit University of Calgary students. The Gamalet, the U of Cs student newspaper, broke the story back in October 2002 that posters had been put up around campus advertising "easy work, flexible hours and great \$\$5.\$" Calgary police busted a number of the individuals involved, and the trial of one of the accused, a former firefighter, is to resume this October.

Escort services

Escort services in Alberta pay \$3600 annually in licensing fees.

The average date with an escort costs \$250 per hour.

Many of the 45 phone numbers in the 2004/05 Yellow Pages listed under "Escort Services" are hosted by only a few companies.

Commercial sex and the law

Christopher Levy, associate dean of law at the U of C, said that the Canadian parliament has never had the courage to make the sex trade completely illegal. Rather, the current law is against communicating for the purpose of sex.

"The Supreme Court of Canada has said its underlying philosophy is to prevent the streets from being inappropriately cluttered. So in effect it's an anti-nuisance law rather than a morality law," Levy explained.

Currently, MPs are consulting sex-trade workers across the country about changing Canada's prostitution laws. They will be visiting major cities in Canada, including Edmonton, before making a report to parliament in June.

Another possible origin, suggests Dr Melissa Farley of www.prostitutionresearch.com, is that sex workers will sometimes say they are students in order to excite their customers.

"Mostly they are girls and women who have to learn to act the part that men want them to act so that men can use them to masturbate to. So lots of times, because tricks are turned on by that, girls and women in prostitution tell tricks that they are college students who are just 'working in prostitution for this semester' to pay for school," explains Farley.

Whatever the rumours, those working at city massage parlours and escort agencies are generally unwilling to talk to the media. When questioned if they employ university students, businesses across the board were unwilling to comment. One receptionist responded emphatically by saying, "You think I'm going to tell you that?"

Some receptionists dodged responding by alleging to not know their employees well enough to say.

Another, slightly more helpful, receptionist said her employees might be willing to talk in person. However, the woman who came to the door was unwilling to answer any questions, saying they were all too personal. She added that she did not trust the media, and suggested that promises of anonymity made to her before had been broken. Overall, she appeared to be quite embarrassed by the encounter. I left suspecting that the receptionist who had invited me to come in likely thought my query was just a ruse to get laid.

Tangential to my search, because stripping is not akin to prostitution, I decided to call some strip clubs to find out if they had any students on staff. The answers of those at the other end of the line also alleged not to know their employees well enough to say.

One person I spoke to explained that students strip to earn money for school in Eastern Canada and the US, but not in Alberta. However, the recent controversy at the U of C surrounding a photo published in the Gauntlet proves that at least one student works as a stripper in Alberta.

In any case, when it comes to the sex trade and students at the University of Alberta, the truth of the extent of student participation will probably never be publicly known. This should not come as a great surprise. The student at the U of C exposed as a stripper has left campus altogether because of her embarrassment at fellow students knowing what she does for a livine.

It isn't surprising that the issue of the Gauntlet that featured her nude photo was one of the most popular of the year. This woman went from average student to sex object, and she responded by fleeing. Perhaps those involved on the "inside" value their reputations more than they value raising public awareness of the sex industry.

Feature by Alexander Witt

Photo Illustrations by Iris Tse with Matt Frehner and Nathalie Nadeau

SPORTS

An inconsistent year for U of A teams

From the best football season in 20 years to disappointing finishes for the defending champion rugby and men's soccer teams, the first half of the year saw mixed results for the Bears and Pandas

JAKE TROUGHTON Sports Editor

The University of Albertix athletic year started off with a baig on 4 September when the Golden Bears football tearn won in Regina for the first time ever, beating the Rams 23–14. It ended with an even bigger bang last week with the Bears hockey team's thrilling come-from-behind overtime win in the national final. In between—well, it was an up-and-down year for the U of A. Today, Gareway sports presents the first part of a two-part look back at the year that was for the Pandsa and Bears.

Pandas field hockey

As hosts, the Pandas had an automatic berth in November's CIS championship, and as it turned out, they needed it. They were ranked fourth in the country throughout the season, but unfortunately for them, they were stock in the same conference as the top two, the perennial powerhouse UBC Thunderbirds and Victoria Vikes. The Pandas had high hopes of knocking off at least one of those teams, but never could, finishing the conference season with a 3–6 record. A disappointing 0–0 draw against the Waterloo Warriors at the national championship then dashed their hopes of earning a medal, as they were eliminated based on goal differential and had to settle for a fifth-place win over the Saint Mary's Huskles.

Pandas rugby

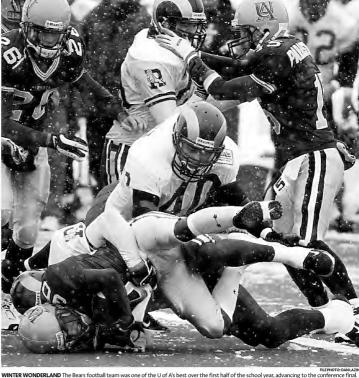
The disappointment of the field hockey squal's finish pales in comparison to that of the rugby team that same weekend. The Pandas had won every US championship in their five years of existence going into the 2004 tournament, but after a scoreless tie against the Toronto Varsity Blues in their opening march, they were forced to play the Western Mustangs—the only team that has ever beaten them—in the semifinal. The Mustangs scored a 25-12 win to end the Pandas five-in-a-row championship streak. Alberta rebounded to say on the podium, though, beating the St Francis Xavier X-Wormen 39-12 in the brooze-medal march.

Bears socces

The Bears were national champions in 2003, but their 2004 campaign did not go as smoothly. They had to win their final regular-season match just to make it to the Canada West playoffs, and did so, beating the Calgary Dinos 1–0. But with



FILEPHOTO: LEANNEFONG
SOCCER WOES The Pandas missed the playoffs.



WINTER WONDERLAND The Bears football team was one of the U of A's best over the first half of the school year, advancing to the conference fir

only one berth available to the conference for the national championship, they then needed to beat the Victoria Vikes in the conference semifinal at Calgary to keep their hopes of defending their championship allve. While they'd beaten the Vikes 2–1 a week earlier in Victoria, they couldn't repeat that success on neutral ground, falling 4–1. They then finished off the season with a 1–0 loss to the Trinity Western Spartans in the conference brouze-medal match.

Pandas soccer

All season long, the young Pandas team had proven to have a potent of fiers, their defense, however, was not up to the same standard, as eridenced by a two-game homestand in September where they gave up a total of ten goals. It was strange, then, that when the team's playoff hopes came down to their final regular-season game, at home against Calgary, it was their offense that let them down. The Pandas—who will host near year's CIS championship—allowed only one goal, but couldn't soore any of their own and were eliminated from the playoffs, frustrating head coach kelly Vandegrift, who referred to the Dinos afterward as a "crappy team."

Cross-country

The Bears and Pandas both overachieved at November's CIS championship in Guelph, with the Bears running their way onto the podium for a second-straight bronze medal. Led by an eighth-place finish by veteran runner Robbie Nissen, the Bears, ted for the fourth-place ranking in the country going into race, placef four of their runners in the top 20. The Pandas also had a strong race, finishing ninth after not being ranked in the top ten heading into the championship. They were led by veteran Lindsay Acheson, the only returnee from the previous year's eighth-place team, who finished tenth.

Bears football

After spending nearly a decade as a laughingstock in Canada West football, the 2004 seaso proved that the Bears are now a team to be taken seriously. They started their year off with a four-game winning streak—with three of those games taking place on the road-on the way to a 7-1 regular-season record and first-place finish in the conference. On 6 November, they played their first home playoff game in 20 years, whip ping Calgary 39-13 in the conference semifinal to avenge their only regular-season loss. A week later, the Saskatchewan Huskies came to town for the conference final, but with all-star running back Jarred Winkel out of the lineup with a knee injury, the Bears suffered a narrow 21-20 loss. With only two players using up their final year of eligibility, the Bears should be an early Vanier Cup favourite next season.

Tennis

The Bears and Pandas tennis teams—which compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in the US and are the only U of A varsity teams in a non-CIS sport—play a spring schedule leading up to the NAIA championship next month in Mobile, Alabama. But back in November they hosted the Western Intercollegiate Championship, a three-team tournament (with UBC and Calgary also in attendance) that served as an unofficial western Canadian championship. Both squads won handily at the event, each winning six of nine matches against UBC and all nine against Calgary.

Swimming

Alberta hosted the first CIS championship of the winter term in February, and while neither the Pandas nor the Bears were ever a threat to reach the podium, they did post some positive results. A fifth-place finish for the Bears' 4x100m medley relay team helped boost the team into minth place overall, reaching first-year head coach Sam Montgomery's pre-season goal of a top-ten finish. The Pandas, however, qualified only four swimmers for the meet and ended up finishing twelfth. Montgomery was pleased overall, though, estimating that 90 per cent of his teams' 36 swims were personal bests.

THIS GATEWAY + volume XXIV number 44 SPORTS 17

The once-great CBC Sports is dying a slow, painful death



ZEMBAL

Sports

This past school year we have witnessed the beginning of the end of one of the greatest staples of Canadiam—CBC Sports. The GAS ports the days of the glorious CBC Sports theme, with its dramatic crash of lights being fired up, rating goose bumps on the skin of even the most hardened sports fan, are, perhaps, very sally gone forever. We can try to ignore the signs, debuding ourselves into a Maple Leafs-fan kind of thinking—TNext year it will get better"—but, like the Leafs, it probably won't.

Of course, with the possible return of NHL hockey next year it just might get better, but it'll still be like Michael Jordan coming out of retirement: a shell of its former self: All signs have been pointing for trouble, starting last spring with the network's Paul Martin-esque dithering on the issue of Don Cherry. With the nation clearly divided on the appeal of Mr Cherry after his controversal remarks about the tendencies of French players to wear visors, the CBC has done nothing to resolve the situation, instead giving him a short-term contract that ensures that nobody is pleased with the decision, most especially the one-dimensional man in the multi-coloured suit himself.

Add that to the NHL lockout and the CBC all Add that to the NHL lockout and the CBC all they managed to make it worse—oh yes, much worse. They tried filling the void with amatteur sports, which is admirable, but our nation craves sports heroes, and when the CBC had the chance to showcase them at the Brier and the Scott Tournament of Hearts—this being Canada, sports heroes include culters—it falled miserably. It scattered its coverage across several channels, including the digital channel Country

Canada, which has fewer subscribers than those events have teams, while some draws weren't shown at all.

Clearly, there is a lack of leadership at the head of CBC Sports—or perhaps, like many Canadians, they are lost and directionless without hockey. Either way, it physically hurts me to see the mistakes and bad luck CBC Sports has encountered this past year.

I actually felt like crying when I heard what quite possibly could be the death blow to the department: the loss of broadcast rights for the Olympic games, including Vancouver 2010. They just couldn't put up enough money, despite having a stellar record of Olympic broadcasts. How am I supposed to watch a blathon race now without Brain Williams telling me who I should be cheering for? If I have to put up with some NBC-like, time-delayed crap broadcasts in 2010, I might actually be forced to stop watching and do something productive with my life.

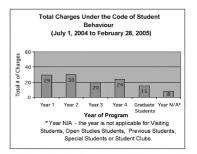
And as if it couldn't get any worse, the geniuses in charge made an absolutely mind-bogglingly-stupid decision: they actually fried the greatest play-by-play man of our time, Mr Chris Cuthbert. I realize that everybody lores the dynamic—"dynamic" meaning they rarely ever leave Teronto—duo of 8bo Cole and Harry Neale, but Cuthbert was the heir apparent: versatile, smart, and in possession of a voice that makes men swoon. Pitting that versus the stuttering, forgetful and, quite frankly, close-to-death Bob Cole is no context.

Now, to combine a couple non-sensical sports analogies, the fourth line—those no-names who get sent to cover Oilers playoff games on the rare occasions that they occur—will get moved up in the rotation, and we'll have to suffer through their banal chatter every Saturday night next year (if the NHL comes back).

Perhaps there is still salvation in sight, but if the NHL goes to replacement players next year, I will be forced to hold a memorial service for a once-stalwart institution of Canadian identity, and say goodbye to CBC Sports forever.

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Provided by the GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC)

Women's hockey needs the Clarkson Cup



TROUGHTON

Sports Commentary

The World Wornen's Hockey Championships are now underway in Sweden, marking the annual week that Canadian sports fans actually care about women's hockey. That's unfortunate, because of the little-known fact that the women who make up Team Canada (not to mention many others) actually play hockey for more than one week per year—high-level, entertaining hockey that deserves attention.

If the people in charge of the sport have anything to say about it, though, that attention could be a long way from coming.

Despite the lack of any notable turf to fight over, the two main women's hockey leagues in Canada—the Western Women's Hockey League, which includes the Edmonton Chimos, and the eastern-based National Women's Hockey League—are involved in a turf war, and as a result the country lacks a national club-team championship.

Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, along with pretty much everyone who's involved with or interested in the sport, wants to change that, and following in the footsteps of her predecessors Lord Stanley and Lord Grey, she proposed donating a championship trophy bearing her name that would be awarded to the national champions. It's a fantastic idea; just as young Canadian boys grow up dreaming of drinking champagne from the Grey Cup or the Stanley Cup, young girls could one day grow up hoping to hoist the storied Clarkson Cup above their heads.

A true national championship with a concrete, sought-after prize could do nothing but boost

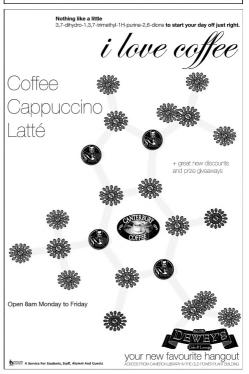
the profile of women's hockey in this country beyond its current one-weel-per-year popularity, and everyone involved knows it. Even NWH.L commissioner Susan Rennell and her WWH.L counterpart, Kathy Berg, speak in nothing but glowing terms about the possibility of coming together to crown a champion. Ye neither league is making any real effort to advance that vision, and their rhetoric makes it seem doubtful that they even want to.

Fennell has even gone so far as to flat-out reject the possibility of NWHL teams playing for a championship against teams from ourside the league, and is insisting that the Clarkson Cup, should it come into existence, be solely an NWHL trophy. As she recently told the Canadian Press: "I would asy to those teams that are playing outside of the league, if you want to compete for the Cup, come inside the league."

That's hardly the kind of approach that's going to lead to cooperation in advancing the cause of women's hockey. If this sort of turf-protecting continues, well, the NWHL will absolutely retain its turf—is will forever remain a tiny, volunteer-run league of unpaid players tolling in community areas with no one there to see the great hockey that's on display.

That's not to say that women's club hockey will automatically ascend to the big time once they get their act together, but it's a necessary first step. Millions of Canadian hockey fans ahready know how good women's hockey can be at the international level, and as the game continues to grow, the WWHI. and ralpidy approaching a similarly high level of play. If fans see that, they'll start flocking to the games in higher numbers, but without a real national championship, it will be a lot harder to get those fans to give it that first look.

This year's World Championship will likely attract the highest TV ratings ever for the tournament; hopefully by next year, the leagues will be able to convince the fans to stick around.



18 SPORTS tuesday, 5 april, 2005

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There are ways the NHL circus could make it to the US big top

A few minor changes could do a lot for the sport's popularity in the States



ANDREW RENFREE

Sports Commentary

Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, welcome to the big top. No. the Shriners aren't in town, but the ongoing aga of the NHL lockout has certainly become a circus. Hockey fass were sure that the farce had ended when Unde Gary went out behind the barra and put NHL bockey out is misery, but there have been plenty of odd happenings since the official cancellation of the season.

Shortly after it died, Mario temieux and Wayne Gretzly did their best impressions of doctors and tried to resuscitate the NHL season by giving it mouth-to-mouth, but alas, their efforts falled. Then a firm offered \$3.5 billion to purchase the entire league, which raised more than a few eyebrows. Shortly after, the debate about hiring replacement players for next season surely had Keanu Reeves thrilled about the chance to play a replacement hockep player in a sequel to his film about a group of replacement football players. Sorry Keanu, you've done enough damage in sequels already.

All of these events have Americans shaking their heads, and many hockey analysts are saying that the game will have difficulty regaining fragile markets, especially in the southern United States. It was at this point that someone got the bright idea that changing the colour of the ice surface might encourage the folks south of the 49th parallel to tune into hockey games en masse. The Rochester Americans of the AHL experimented with a blue ice surface and orange lines so that it would be easier for fans, Americans specifically, to see the puck. Perhaps this is a derivative of the glowing puck idea of the 1990s, which aimed to help fans view the game better on teleon. Not surprisingly, the Fox Puck failed, and the blue ice will probably end up in the same boat, just another reason that the NHL is becoming the laughing stock of professional

sports. No matter what embarrassments hockey suffers throughout the lockton, Canadian fins will still wach the game whenever the puck drops again. Many Americans, though, will just lose interest in the sport. There are, however, a few ways that the NHL could manage to hold an American audience when the dust settles and the league resumes play.

Make hockey more like NASCAR

Our southern neighbours are obsessed with this "sport" for some odd reason, so the NHL could emulate NASCAR to increase fan support. Players could skate around the rink in circles a few hundred times before the game, taking pit stops to sharpen their skates

and fuel up with water.

Increase the scoring in hockey Yankees love high-scoring sports like

Yankees love high-scoring sports like basketball, so if hockey removed the goalies altogether it might spur interest in the game. If a 33–28 hockey game doesn't get your blood flowing, nothing will.

Cheerleaders

Nobody loves cheerleaders more than Americans, and some teams, such as the Carolina Hurricanes, have already caught on that cheerleaders increase attendance at games. A pyramid of scantily clad women is just that much more entertaining on ice than it is on turf.

Make hockey more like poker

Every time you turn on a television nowadays there's a poker tournament being held, and it is becoming very popular with Americans. The NHL can capitalize on that: each team would have two players, and there would be five "community players" that either team could use to make the best possible line. Players could also wear plasses and hats to hide their expressions while on the ice.

Perhaps rather than picking and choosing, the NHL could even implement all of these suggestions. After all, drastic times call for drastic measures, and if something isn't done soon NHL hockey could soon go the way of the XFL—extinction.

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CROSSWORD

The crossword runs every Thursday

The answer key to the 31 March crossword entitled the Canadaword available online at http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/view php?aid=4356

From now on the crossword answers will not be printed in the paper, but will be available online when a new crossword is made available.

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